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Sep 4th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I live in a small, rural town in Oregon and get my internet from a local provider (Gorge Networks). I'm worried about the recent petition from the US Telecom Association that will affect how gorge.net is able to access lines in order to provide local internet service. I love having a local provider. They have great customer service. I can get on the phone and one of their technicians will talk me through whatever problem I am having. If I need a new piece of equipment I can drive down to their office easily. They have local offices that pay local taxes and have employees that live and work in the community, which is vital to rural America. This area has several local internet providers that compete with the main alternative, Century Link. Century Link offices are 90 miles away in Portland and their customer service is terrible. You get some random call center person who isn't very well trained and doesn't really care about your problem. We are really lucky to have several local options that have to be competitive with one another in order to retain my business. I've lived in a small town for last 20 years and big companies don't really care about business out here because of the small numbers. Please don't approve the petition.

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